

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the section of the specification beginning on page 4, line 10 and ending on page 7, line 9 with the following amended paragraphs:

-- According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided in a radio communication system including a first transceiver, a second transceiver and a repeater, the first and second transceivers being separated from each other by a distance greater than at least one of their respective maximum transmission ranges, and the repeater being located intermediate the first and second transceivers, the method including upon receiving data from one of either the first or second transceivers, the repeater transmits a ~~repeater~~ repeat flag to cause the transceivers to suspend further action and then transmits the data received from the one of either the first or second transceivers.

According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a ~~communications protocol for use in a network of devices, the protocol having a frame including a first time slot for transmitting data, a second time slot, after the first time slot, for indicating a repeat flag, and a third time slot, after the second time slot, for retransmitting the data transmitted in the first time slot~~ a method for transmitting and receiving data according to a frame for use in a network of devices including a first transceiver, a repeater, and at least one other transceiver, the method including transmitting, by the first transceiver, data for each of the at least one other transceivers in a first time slot of the frame, transmitting, by the repeater, a repeat flag in a second time slot of the frame, after the first time slot, and retransmitting, by the repeater, the data transmitted in the first time slot in a third time slot of the frame after the second time slot.

According to a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided a radio communication system including a first transceiver, a second transceiver and a repeater, the first and second transceivers being separated from each other by a distance greater than at least one of their respective maximum transmission ranges, and the repeater being located intermediate the first and second transceivers,

wherein upon receiving data from one of either the first or second transceivers, in a first time slot, the repeater transmits a repeater flag in a second time slot to cause the transceivers to suspend further action, and then in a third time slot transmits the data received in the first time slot.

According to a fourth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a repeater for use in a radio communication system including at least two transceivers, the at least two transceivers being separated from each other by a distance greater than at least one of their respective transmitting ranges, in use, the repeater being disposed intermediate the at least two transceivers wherein upon receiving data in a first time slot, the repeater transmits a repeat flag in a second time slot to cause the transceivers to suspend further action, and then transmits in a third time slot, data received in the first time slot.

According to a fifth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a transceiver for use in a radio communication system including at least one other transceiver and a repeater, the transceiver and the at least one other transceiver being separated from each other by a distance greater than at least one of their respective transmitting ranges, in use, the repeater being disposed intermediate the transceiver and the at least one other transceiver, wherein upon receiving a repeat flag from the repeater, in a second time slot, the transceiver suspends further action until it receives from the repeater, in a third time slot, data that was originally transmitted by the at least one other transceiver in a first time slot, before the second time slot.

According to a sixth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for use in a radio communications system including at least a first transceiver, a second transceiver and a repeater, the first transceiver and the second transceiver being separated by a distance greater than a maximum transmission range of at least one of the transceivers, and the repeater being disposed intermediate the first and second transceivers, such that upon receipt of a data transmission from the first transceiver, the repeater re-transmits the data transmission from the first transceiver, wherein upon receipt of a data transmission from the second transceiver before the

repeater completely receives or retransmits the data transmission from the first transceiver, the repeater transmits a data sequence instructing each transceiver to cease its respective transmission.

According to a seventh aspect of the present invention, there is provided a radio communications system including at least a first transceiver, a second transceiver and a repeater, the first transceiver and the second transceiver being separated by a distance greater than a maximum transmission range of at least one of the transceivers, and the repeater being disposed intermediate the first and second transceivers, such that upon receipt of a data transmission from the first transceiver, the repeater re-transmits the data transmission from the first transceiver, wherein upon receipt of a data transmission from the second transceiver before the repeater completely receives or re-transmits the data transmission from the first transceiver, the repeater transmits a data sequence instructing each transceiver to cease its respective transmission.

According to an eighth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a repeater for use in a radio communication system including at least a first transceiver and a second transceiver, the first transceiver and the second transceiver being separated by a distance greater than a maximum transmission range of at least one of the transceivers, in use, the repeater being disposed intermediate the first and second transceivers such that upon receipt the data transmission from the first transceiver, the repeater retransmits the data transmission from the first transceiver, wherein upon receipt of a data transmission from the second transceiver before the repeater completely receives or re-transmits the data transmission from the first transceiver, the repeater transmits a data sequence instructing each transceiver to cease its respective transmission.

According to a ninth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a transceiver for use in a radio communication system including at least one other transceiver and a repeater, in use, the transceiver and the at least one other transceiver are separated by a distance greater than a maximum transmission range of at least one of the

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transceivers, and the repeater being disposed intermediate the transceiver and the at least one other transceiver, such that upon receipt of a data transmission from the at least one other transceiver, the repeater re-transmits the data transmission from the at least one other transmitter and upon receipt of the data transmission from the transceiver before retransmitting the data transmission from the at least one other transceiver, the ~~reporter~~ repeater transmits a data sequence instructing each transceiver to cease respective transmissions, wherein, upon receipt of the data sequence from the repeater, the transceiver will cease transmission.    --